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## **PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS 2019: A STUDY OF YOUNG VOTERS' PREFERENCES**

The study of public opinion around the elections is an important component of the establishment of democratic processes in the country, since the study of voters' preferences helps to make predictions about the voter turnout, prevent data falsification, correct the course of a political campaign and the image of a particular political candidate, etc. These factors determined the relevance of our research.

The purpose of our study was to explore the preferences of young voters regarding the presidential elections that will take place in Ukraine in 2019. To achieve the goal, a questionnaire was designed to collect the maximum amount of information in a short time compared to an interview.

The question "Which representative of a political party will you give preference to in the presidential elections 2019?" is part of the questionnaire concluded by Anastasiya Gladyshchuk. The survey took place on March 23, 2018. The survey was conducted by Galaktionova Margarita and Gladyshchuk Anastasia among the students of

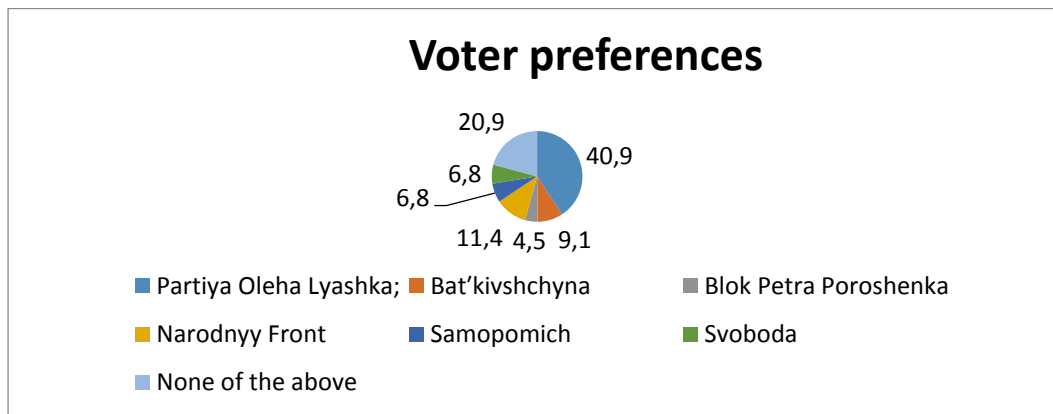
Zhytomyr National Agroecological University. Such a sample allowed us to study the preferences of a specific sample of voters: age – up to 20 years old, type of activity – student.

The survey was conducted with 50 people. They had to choose the political party whose representative they would prefer in the 2019 presidential elections in Ukraine from the following options: 1. Radical Party Oleh Lyashko; 2. "Batkivshchyna"; 3. Petro Poroshenko Bloc; 4. People's Front; 5. Union "Self Reliance"; 6. VO "Svoboda"; 7. None of the above. The results of the study were filled in a table followed by the analysis of the responses. The survey results are presented below.

Thus, 44 people elected representatives of the proposed parties, and 14 chose the option "None of the above". The procedure for calculating the results is as follows: first, we calculated the specific weight of the answer of one respondent –  $44: 100 = 0.44$ . This allows us to calculate the percentage of respondents who selected each response, for example, 18 voted for the Party of Oleh Lyashko –  $18: 0.44 = 40.9\%$ .

The results of the study are presented in Graph 1.

Graph 1.



Conclusion: According to the results of the survey, students' votes at the next presidential elections will be distributed as follows: 40.9% of voters will vote for a representative of the Radical Party Oleh Lyashko, 9.1% – for a representative of "Batkivshchyna", 4.5% for Petro Poroshenko Bloc, 11.4% for the People's Front, and 6.8% for Self Reliance Help and Freedom. However, in order to achieve optimal results,

it would be necessary to add a question to those 20.9% of respondents who chose the option "None of the listed" to clarify whether they have already made their choice, and if so, provide the possibility to include their option.